

REMARKS

The Office Communication of December 28, 2004 has been carefully reviewed and all matters presented in the Office Communication are addressed herein.

With regard to the rejection of claims 1-6, 10-13, 16-20, and 24 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting, as being unpatentable over claims 1-5, 15, 16, 19, 20, 22, and 23 of U.S. Patent No. 6,297,329, the Applicant confirms that the invention of the conflicting patent and the invention of the present application were commonly owned by Akzo Nobel at the time the invention of the present application was made. It is noted that all three inventors of the invention of the present application – Klaus Hobel, Huig Klinkenberg, and Arie Noomen – are inventors of the conflicting patent. A new terminal disclaimer, signed by David H. Vickrey, is being submitted herein to overcome this rejection.

With regard to the status identifier of claim 10, such status identifier has been corrected in this submission.

If an extension of time is required, Applicant herein petitions for such extension of time such that this response is timely. Applicant herein authorizes that any and all charges due be charged to its Deposit Account No. 01-1350.

Respectfully submitted,

HOBEL et al.



Michelle J. Burke  
Reg. No. 37,791  
Attorney for Applicant

Akzo Nobel Inc.  
Intellectual Property Dept.  
7 Livingstone Avenue  
Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522-3408  
(914) 674-5459